LIBRARY

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

EARBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(Alexander Falconer, M.B., C.M.)

and

SANITARY INSPECTOR

(A. Smithson, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.)

For the Year 1940.

EARBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(Alexander Falconer M.B.,C.M.)

and

SANITARY INSPECTOR

(A. Smithson, C.R.S.I. M.S.I.A.)

For the Year 1940.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

THE WHOLE COUNCIL

Chairman, Councillor W. Firth, J.P.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(Part Time)

Alexander Falconer, M.B.,C.M.

SANITARY INSPECTOR

A. Smithson, C.R.S.I.,M.S.I.A.

SCHOOL NURSE AND HEALTH VISITOR

(West Riding County Council)

Nurse F. Bensted.

EARBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

for the Year 1940.

To the Chairman & Members
of the
Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present for your consideration my Annual Report for 1940.

Like that for 1939 it will necessarily be abbreviated owing to the wartime conditions prevailing with the necessary restrictions and increased work of the Sanitary Staff. All records of the year together with statistics supplied by the Registrar General will be preserved with this report so that a survey of conditions in the District will be available for all the years of the war.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	3519
Population (last Census 1931)	5522
Registrar General's figures for estimated population mid. 1940.	1442
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Book December 1940	1608
Rateable Value.	£25,583. 0. 0d.
Sum represented by a penny rate.	£106. 11. 11d.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

There has been no change from previous years in the Social Conditions of the residents. Work in the Cotton Sheds has not been oversteady and conditions appear likely to degenerate as long as the war effort has to be sustained. Conditions in outlying areas have not varied - Dairy farming being still the main employment. More land is being ploughed for the production of food crops of all kinds.

At the beginning of the year the number of evacuees from Bradford and district dwindled until there were only four left from that evacuation area. In the last three months of the year this area had to provide accommodation for London evacuees and approximately 200 mothers and children were housed. At the same time many private evacuees came from bombed areas and were housed by the residents of the district also accommodation was obtained by the wives and dependants of a military unit who were billetted in the district.

Many of the younger residents left the district for Military service but the influx of evacuees and others as stated above kept the available houses well filled.

The scheme of evacuation worked smoothly and the general health of the district was good and was not affected by the presence of evacuees and their children.

There was no particular cause of sickness or invalidity during the year and conditions of employment did not have any prejudicial effect on health

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

Births.

The number of births was 47 being made up of:-

	M	F	Total.
Live Births, legitimate	25	19	44
" illegitimate	3	-	3
Total	28	19	47

Of these 31 births were notified in the district the remaining 16 births occurring in Maternity Homes in the near vicinity; 7 births occurred amongst evacuees 4 occurring at their temporary residence in the district and 3 in Maternity Homes.

From these figures the Annual Birth Rate was 10.5 per 1,000 resident population (7:7.1939) compared with the Birth Rate of 14.6 for England and Wales (15.0.1939)

Still Births. The number recorded were 2 legitimate males giving a still Birth Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births of 40.8.

Deaths.

Cause.	M.	F.
Tuberculosis of respiratory system.	1	2
Influenza.	2	0
Cancer	3	5
Diabetes.	0	2
Intra Cranial vascular lesions.	1	3
Heart disease.	15	11
Other diseases of circulatory system.	0	1
Bronchitis.	3	2
Pneumonia	2	1
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	2	0
Other digestive diseases.	2	0
Nephritis.	3	1
Puerperal and post abortion sepsis.	0	1
Premature births.	1	2
Suicide.	0	1
Other violent causes.	0	1
All other causes.	2	4
Total	37	37

74 deaths were recorded during the year of which 56 were registered within the district, the remainder, 18, being transferable deaths.

The death rate for the year was therefore 16.6 per 1,000 population (15.6 1939) compared with the rate of 14.3 for England and Wales (12.1 1939).

Death Rate of infants under 1 year of age.

The number of deaths of children under 1 year of age was 4. 3 of them from Prematurity and 1 (aged 10 months) from Broncho-pneumonia.

Death Rate - all infants per 1,000 live births	83·3
" " - legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.	88·8

		Rate per 1,000 Live & Still births.
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis and other Puerperal conditions.	1	20
Deaths fromCancer (all ages)	8	
Measles(all ages)	-	
Whooping Cough	-	
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	-	

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The number of cases notified was:

Scarlet Fever	7
Erysipelas	2
Pneumonia	4
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1
Puerperal condition	1
Whooping Cough	22
Measles	87
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1
Total	125

The cases removed to Hospital where the isolation at home was unsuitable, were Scarlet Fever 5 and Cerebro Spinal Fever 1. 2 deaths of Influenza, 3 of Pneumonia and 1 Puerperal cause (Pulmonary Embolism following childbirth) were notified. All cases of Scarlet Fever were mild. No case of Diphtheria was observed and immunisation was not carried out during the year.

Whooping Cough was moderately prevalent in the early months of the year and was of a mild type.

A sharp epidemic of Measles accompanied by many cases of German Measles was prevalent in the Spring and early Summer. The type was moderate and there were no deaths.

Tuberculosis No action was required under the various Public Health Acts for compulsory removal. 3 new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis (male in 35 age group and 2 females in 25 age group) were notified. 3 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis (male aged 41, females aged 29 and 39 years) were recorded. The number of cases on the register at the end of the year was:-

	M.	F.
Pulmonary	8	4
Non-Pulmonary	6	6
Total	24	

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Maternity & Child Welfare.

Attendance at the Child Welfare Clinic and Antinatal Clinic was good during the year and it was noticable that evacuees appeared to take advantage of both clinics to a better extent than residents in the district.

A District Nurse was appointed in April and she also acted as resident midwife and appeared to fill a long standing gap in the services in an efficient manner.

No change was made in the facilities for provision of other Health Services - laboratory, ambulance hospitals etc.

HOUSING

Only one new house was built during the year and there was no shortage of housing accommodation nor instance of over-crowding.

WATER.

The supply was well maintained during the year and samples were regularly taken for bacteriological examination. On one occasion the Kelbrook supply did not conform with the Ministry of Health's standards and on investigation cattle were found to be grazing on part of the Gathering Grounds and were immediately removed.

Four samples of water examined by the County Analyst for the presence of lead and all were found to be satisfactory.

Arrangements for the chlorination of the Kelbrook supply was in hand at the year end.

During the year 1248 yards of supply piping were laid to replace worn out pipes at Kelbrook and in the Red Lion Street and Stoopes Hill areas of Earby.

RAINFALL.

Number of days on which rain recorded.	190
Total rainfall in inches.	35.93
Monthly Average	2·99
Heaviest Rainfall for one month - November.	7·18
" " " " day - November 11th	1·71
Lowest Rainfall for one month - June	0·73

SCHOOLS.

There was nothing to report in connection with schools which were regularly inspected.

MILK SUPPLY.

This was well maintained throughout the year and general conditions of cowsheds were satisfactory. The number of Accredited Milk producers is steadily increasing.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

No new developments were adopted and the Sanitary Staff was able to carry out its duties efficiently in all departments.

In this brief Annual Report there are no other outstanding information on health and Sanitary Administration to be recorded.

I am Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant

ALEXANDER FALCONER.

Medical Officer of Health.

August 1941.

EARBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1940.

Sir,

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report on the sanitary circumstances of the District and the work carried out by the Department during the year ended 31st December, 1940.

CLASSIFIED LIST OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS.

Dwelling Houses.		256
Ash-pit conversions.		186
Water Supply:		
Samples for Plumbo-solvency.	4	
" " Bacteriological examination.	26	30
Gathering Grounds.		3
Milk Supply :		
Samples.		54
Cowsheds and Dairies.		259
Food Supply :		
Slaughterhouses.		18
Butcher's Shops.		252
Ice Cream Premises.		8
Food Preparing Premises.		13
Fish Friers.		11
Bakehouses.		31
Factories.		14
Shops.		43
Infectious Diseases.		106
Disinfections :- Rooms.		20
School Classrooms.		7
Books.		20
Refuse Tip and Destructor.		213
Closet Conversions.		9
Rats and Mice Destruction.		9
Alleged dirty and verminous premises.		4
Smoke Observations.		23
Cinema.		1
Caravans.		4
Public Conveniences.		21
Mortuaries.		5
Marine Stores.		5
Rent Collections.		52
Interview with Owners, Agents and Contractors.		78
Miscellaneous visits and Inspections.		41

WORK CARRIED OUT UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Insufficient and Defective dustbins.	40
Defective ash-pit doors and walls.	2
Dustbins provided in lieu of ash-pits.	74
Defective Inspection Chambers.	1
Choked waste water closets and drains.	63
Defective waste water tipplers.	14
Defective Fresh water closet cisterns.	1
" " " " pedestals.	4
Defective Septic Tanks.	2
Burst water pipes in fresh water closets.	5
Defective house roofs.	8
Defective eaves-gutters and rain water pipes.	5
Damp Walls.	1
Defective window frames and sash cords.	4
Defective fireranges and chimney flues.	3
Defective waste pipes.	6

Defective waste gully.	1
Defective pointing to sink.	1
Defective hand-rails to stairs.	4
Defective stair treads.	1
Drains examined and tested.	36
Dirty premises cleaned.	4
Defective manure pit.	1
Complaints received.	24
Informal Notices.	26
Statutory Notices.	-
Number of nuisances outstanding 31st Dec. 1939.	0
" " " during 1940.	74
" " " abated 1940.	68
" " " outstanding 31st Dec. 1940.	6

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

During the year one pail and three waste water closets were converted to the fresh water system.

The approximate numbers of the various closets in the district at the end of the year were :-

Waste water closets.	1527
Fresh Water closets.	245
Pail closets(Earby 9, Kelbrook 22)	31
Privies with covered middens (Kelbrook).	3
Privies on outlying farms.	43

REFUSE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL.

Household refuse was collected and disposed of as in previous years. The only change was in collection when the Council's own horse was used for four days each week instead of two days. Hired horses were only used on exceptional occasions.

The weight of refuse collected during the year, based on test weighing each week, was approximately 1,205 tons which were removed in 1,254 cartloads and 87 motor loads. An increase weight was noted during the last quarter in comparison to the previous quarter in 1939, due to the occupation of many of the empty houses and the influx of evacuees etc.

During the year 4,824 ash-pits were emptied.

The following statement shows the cost of collection and disposal in Earby and Kelbrook for the year ended December 31st, 1940 :-

	£.	s.	d.
COLLECTION -			
Wages.	138	9	0
Haulage - Horse.	172	3	11
Motor.	44	17	8½
Weighs.	1	1	10
	£356	12	5½
DISPOSAL -			
Expenditure.	150	16	4
Income.	39	0	7
	£111	15	9

The collection and disposal of the refuse from the outer districts of Kelbrook was again carried out under contract by F.E.Smalley. 25 loads were removed at an approximate cost of £4-13-0d.

SALVAGE.

Statement for the year 1940.

Receipts.	£.	s.	d.	Payments.	£.	s.	d.
To sale of -				By Baling Press.	6	10	0
Waste Paper.	164	4	6	" Repairs to old press.	1	8	6
Scrap Metals.	28	2	11	" Printing & Advertising	4	15	6
Rags, Carpets, etc.	9	18	10	Baling Wire & Rope.	10	10	3
Glass Jars.	2	6	0	Wire Baskets.	2	2	4
Bones.		7	9	Painting & Notice Boards.	2	8	9
	205	0	0	Haulage.	21	4	11
Stock of baled paper in hand 31/12/40.	6	0	0	Wages.	92	15	3
Glass Jars.		15	0	Weighs.		14	10
				Sundries.		7	9
					142	18	3
				Balance.	68	16	9
	£ 211	15	0		£ 211	15	0

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

The number of cowkeepers etc, on the registers at the end of the year, was as follows :-

Cowkeepers, Wholesale and Retail Purveyors.	8
Cowkeepers and Retail Purveyors.	11
Cowkeepers and Wholesale Purveyors.	20
Cowkeepers and Wholesale Purveyors (also Butter).	2
Cowkeepers and Buttermakers.	6
Retail Purveyors only.	7

259 visits were made to the above premises, and the conditions found were quite satisfactory.

The following alterations were carried out during the year :-

New dairies provided.	3	Raising of cowshed roofs.	1
New floors and Channels.	2	Additional lights and Ventil- (ation	2
Floors repaired.	1	Walls rendered.	2

Forty three samples of ungraded milk were taken for bacteriological examination, eighteen of which complied with the Methylene Blue Test, thirteen failed and the remaining twelve did not arrive at the Laboratory in time for examination. Investigations were specially made where the samples were unsatisfactory.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders 1936 & 1938.

Number of licenced producers - Accredited.		8
Number of Dealer's licences granted by the Council -	Accredited.	3
	Pasteurised.	6

One farmer carried out the necessary requirements of the County Council for the production of accredited milk, and was awaiting his licence at the year end.

Eleven samples of milk were taken at the request of the County Council, from milk produced under an Accredited licence, also six samples were taken by Inspectors from the County Council. all of which, with the exception of two, passed the prescribed test for 'Accredited' milk.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

With the exception of a few pigs which were slaughtered under the Livestock(Restriction on Slaughtering Order) 1940 for the owners own use, no slaughtering took place after the 15th January, 1940, in the district on account of the Government having taken control of all slaughtering. Slaughtering has since been carried out at the Skipton Abattoir.

Four premises were registered during the year for the manufacture of Potted, Pressed and Preserved Foods.

Slaughterhouses :-			
Public.	1	Visits	18
Licenced.	2		
Butcher's Shops.	8	"	252
Premises registered for the manufacture of Potted, Pressed and Preserved Foods.	4	"	13

Ninety-eight animals were slaughtered during the year, namely :-

Cows.	1
Cattle, excluding Cows.	15
Sheep.	60
Pigs.	22
	98

Upon post-mortem examination, 90 carcases were found to be free from disease whilst the remaining 8 carcases showed evidence of some localised disease, and classified as follows :-

Tuberculosis :	
Beast Head and Tongue.	2
" Liver.	1
" Lungs.	1
Pig Heads.	5
" Mesentery.	1
Pneumonia :	
Pig lungs.	1

Other food which was found to be unsound and was surrendered voluntarily :-

1 - 6 lb. tin Boiled Beef
1 - 6 lb. tin Veal.
35½ lbs Bacon.
2½ lbs Hake.

ICE CREAM PREMISES.

The following registrations were made under section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 :

Sale of Ice Cream.	1
Manufacture for the purpose of sale of Ice Cream.	3
Total.	4

SHOPS.

Forty three inspections were made under the Shops Act, 1934, and conditions were found very satisfactory.

BAKEHOUSES.

Number on Register.	13
Number of Inspections.	31.

All the bakehouses were kept in a very satisfactory condition and limewashing was carried out at the stipulated times.

FACTORIES.

There are 50 Factories, including 13 bakehouses on the register namely :-

Cotton Manufacturers.	13
Joiners and Builders.	5
Engineers and Smiths.	6
Cloggers and Shoemakers.	6
Paper Printers.	2
Tailors and Dressmakers.	3
Plumbers.	1
Bakers and Confectioners.	13
Other Works.	1
	50

Conditions on the whole were very satisfactory.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.

Number of chimneys.	8
" " Observations of 30 minutes duration.	23
Average emission of black smoke.	0.10.
" " " moderate smoke.	2.26.
" " " fine or no "	27.62.
Number of contraventions of the Bye-laws.	0

RAG AND BONE DEALERS.

Number on register.	2
Number of visits.	5

FISH FRYERS.

Number on register.	5
Number of inspections.	11

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

There were none permanently in the District. Four visited the Fairground and on examination were found to be in a very satisfactory condition.

PESTOLOGY.

Eradication of bed-bugs.

No action was necessary for the disinfestation of any premises for bed-bug infestation.

Rats and Mice Destruction.

As in previous years advice and assistance was given to persons who were troubled with these rodents, and baits were given, free of charge, to the occupiers of infested properties.

The Council's premises were carefully watched and baited when considered necessary.

EVACUATION.

The work in connection with billeting again took up some time, particularly during the latter part of the year, when Mothers and Children were evacuated from London. Three batches were received, numbering 69 adults, and 119 children, all of whom were either billeted with householders or, where the families were found to be unsuitable for billeting on private householders, in houses which had been requisitioned and furnished for the purpose. At the close of the year there were 223 evacuees etc., in the district in comparison with 36 in December, 1939.

In conclusion, I desire to thank you for the help you have given to me during the year, the Chairman and Members of the Council and Heads of other departments for their helpful co-operation at all times.

I am, Sir,

A. SMITHSON,

Sanitary Inspector.
Chief Billeting Officer.